

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO. [redacted]

TOPIC Soviet Troops Departing Perleberg and Rathenow

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EVALUATION see below

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DATE OF CONTENT 24 to 29 April 1954

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DATE PREPARED

13 May 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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25X1 1. On 28 April 1954, [redacted] during the night of 24 April, Unit Bragin from the Artillerie Kaserne (5341) and several units from the Fliegerhorst Kaserne (5342) were loaded at Perleberg railroad station and over the ramp at the Fliegerhorst Kaserne for shipment to Schweinrich troop training grounds.

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2. On 29 April, [redacted] during the night of 28 April, about 20 tanks and a searchlight battery were loaded at Perleberg railroad station. The train was said to have left toward Pritzwalk.

3. On 28 April, the Artillerie Kaserne in Perleberg quartered a guard detail only. Colonel Kusnetsov (fmu), supply officer of Unit Bragin, had left for reassignment.

4. On 28 April, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne was occupied only by Units Lieutenant Colonel Melnikov (fmu) and Captain Shumelkov (fmu). Lieutenant Colonel Vasiliev (fmu) returned from furlough prior to 24 April.

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5. From 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on 27 April, 20 boxcars and 25 flatcars with sideracks were loaded at Rathenow-Nordbahnhof with a unit from the Pionier Kaserne. The unit included 8 x 122-mm howitzers, 4 radio trucks, 3 ambulances, 3 tank trucks.

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25X1 1. [redacted] the units of the 18th Mech Div were to move to Schweinrich troop training grounds not before 3 May 1954.

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[redacted] The present report indicates, that the majority of the division departed Perleberg already prior to late April. The units included the 58th Mech Regt with Colonel Bragin (fmu). It could not be determined whether the tanks entrained on 28 April belonged to the tank battalion of the regiment or, possibly, to the 120th Mtrcl Bn. In the latter case, however, there may have been only 10 T-34 tanks.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The entraining was made by units of the 18th How Arty Brig (US). [redacted] 5 trains with units of the 6th Arty Div, including 4 with elements of the brigade, went to Altengrabow between 27 and 29 April.

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